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Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Dainius **Baublys** (Lithuania)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)" was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 60/50 of 8 December 2005.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2007, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 88 to 105, which was held at the 2nd to 8th meetings, from 8 to 11 and on 15 and 16 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.2-8). The Committee also held 12 meetings (9th to 20th), for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/62/PV.9-20). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered also, at the 9th to 20th meetings, from 17 to 19, from 22 to 26 and on 29 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.9-20). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 21st to 25th meetings, from 30 October to 2 November (see A/C.1/62/PV.21-25).

4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.10

5. At the 20th meeting, on 29 October, the representative of Mexico, on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), introduced a draft resolution entitled "Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)" (A/C.1/62/L.10). Subsequently, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cambodia, Dominica, Grenada, Indonesia and Trinidad and Tobago joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the 22nd meeting, on 30 October, the representative of Mexico, on behalf of the sponsors, orally revised operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution by replacing the words "implementation of the agreements reached" by the words "implementing the Declaration adopted".

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.10, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 8).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

8. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[1] was opened for signature at Mexico City on 14 February 1967,

Recalling also that, in its preamble, the Treaty of Tlatelolco states that military denuclearized zones are not an end in themselves but rather a means for achieving general and complete disarmament at a later stage,

Recalling further that, in its resolution 2286 (XXII) of 5 December 1967, it welcomed with special satisfaction the Treaty of Tlatelolco as an event of historic significance in the efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security,

Recalling that in 1990, 1991 and 1992 the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean approved and opened for signature a set of amendments[2] to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, with the aim of enabling the full entry into force of that instrument,

Noting with satisfaction the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the adoption and opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which was observed in Mexico City on 14 February 2007,

Highlighting that the Treaty of Tlatelolco is now in force for thirty-three sovereign States of the region, thereby consolidating the first nuclear-weapon-free zone established in a densely populated region,

Noting with satisfaction the leadership of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in the convening of the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, held in Tlatelolco, Mexico, from 26 to 28 April 2005,

Reaffirming the importance of strengthening the Agency as the appropriate legal and political forum for ensuring full compliance with and implementation of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, as well as cooperation with the agencies of other nuclear-weapon-free zones,

1. *Welcomes* the fact that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[1] is now in force for the sovereign States of the region;

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[2] A/47/467, annex.

2. *Urges* the countries of the region that have not yet done so to sign or deposit their instruments of ratification of the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco approved by the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in its resolutions 267 (E-V), 268 (XII) and 290 (E-VII);

3. *Encourages* States members of the Agency to continue activities and efforts with a view to implementing the Declaration adopted at the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones;[3]

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)".

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[3] A/60/121, annexes.